

**MANUFACTURE OF IRON IN GREAT BRITAIN.**—In a report on this subject made to the British Association, at their last meeting, Mr. Porter stated, that in 1788 the whole quantity of pig-iron made in England and Wales, amounted to no more than 61,300 tons; of which 48,200 were made with coke of pit-coal, and 13,100 from charcoal: in the same year the amount raised in Scotland was 7,000 tons. In 1796 the quantity, owing to Watt's improvement of the steam-engine, was nearly double, being 125,079 tons. Ten years later, viz. in 1806, it was found to have more than doubled, being—

England and Wales .....	234,966 tons.
Scotland .....	23,240 "
Total .....	258,206 "

In 1823, this quantity had risen to 482,066 tons, and in 1830 it was further increased to 678,417 tons. Since then a great saving has been effected in the fuel required, and in Scotland the production of iron has risen from 37,500 tons in 1830 to nearly 500,000 tons in the last twelve months. In 1836 every iron-works in Great Britain was visited by M. F. Le Play, chief engineer to the Paris Board of Works, and he estimated the amount produced that year at 1,000,000 of tons. The quantity of iron made in 1840 was 1,343,400 tons; but, in consequence of the commercial depression, this fell to 1,046,428 tons in 1843, being a depreciation of 22 per cent. It is the opinion of the iron-masters, that, since 1840, nearly all the increased production of iron in the kingdom has been drawn from Scotland. The make of pig-iron there, for the first six months of 1845, was 260,000 tons. From the cost of production, combined, perhaps, with other causes, the amount of production in England for 1845 was only 917,500 tons, being 238,000 tons less than the production of 1840. Up to the beginning of the present century, nearly two-fifths of all the iron used in this kingdom was imported from the north of Europe; but in 1806 this proportion had fallen to one-eighth, and foreign iron is now only imported for the manufacture of steel. Our exports, on the contrary, have so increased as to become an object of national importance. In 1827 we exported 92,313 tons, at the declared value of 1,215,361*l.* In 1845 we exported 351,278 tons, at the declared value of 3,501,895*l.* There is room for a very extended increase in the use of iron in England.

**ARRANGEMENTS FOR RAPID INTELLIGENCE.**—The electro-telegraphic arrangements for the concentration of all the lines at the central office, in Lothbury, says the London correspondent of the *Liverpool Albion*, are rapidly advancing towards completion. The coming importance of this new and wondrous agency is already foreshadowed in the announcement of a daily paper, to be exclusively devoted to the promulgation, in print, of the news received by lightning. The journal is to be called the *London Telegraph*; its hour of publication, twelve at noon; its price, threepence; its size, a folio, about half the dimensions of *The Albion*; and, that rapidity may be a characteristic of it in all respects, it is to be printed by one of Little's patent double-action machines, at double the speed hitherto obtained. It is to be ready simultaneously with the opening of the central station, but is unconnected with the company. It is understood to be a project of Messrs. Brett and Little, the inventors of the electric telegraph called after them: gentlemen who have made large and valuable contributions to science in various departments; and who have lately instituted a series of experiments on the Brighton and Chichester Railway, which bid fair to achieve, by extremely simple and inexpensive means, the long-sought desideratum for enabling passengers in trains to communicate with guards, and the latter with engine-drivers.

**IMPERIAL AND CONTINENTAL GAS COMPANY.**—A general meeting of proprietors of shares in this undertaking was lately held, at the offices of the company, White Hart-court, Lombard-street. The report of the board of directors congratulated the shareholders upon the continued prosperity of the company, and recommended a dividend of five per cent. on the paid-up capital of the company, for the half-year ending 30th June. The half-yearly report on the second capital was subsequently read, and a similar dividend on that, too, declared.

**PROJECTED WORKS.**—Tenders have been called for by advertisement for the erection of officers' barracks, with mess establishments, at Sheffield; the construction of a new floating dock at Leith, with an extension of breakwaters, and the erection of a low-water pier, and other works; also, for the building of a toll-house and offices near Leeds.

**OXFORD ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY.**—At the first meeting this term, held on Wednesday, Nov. 3rd, after the report of the committee and the list of presents had been read, Mr. Jones, in behalf of the Dorchester sub-committee, announced the near completion of the restoration of the sacristy of the abbey church; the painted glass, however, was not yet fixed in the window. Mr. E. H. Lechmere, of Christ Church, one of the committee, read the first part of a paper, illustrated by plans and drawings, "On the Architectural Antiquities of the Cathedral of Basle." Mr. Lechmere, first briefly enumerating the leading events in the early history of the cathedral, which was founded by the Emperor Henry II., in the year 1010, proceeded to trace the remains of the earliest and most curious portions of the building. The cathedral, which is dedicated to the Virgin, and is an usual built in the form of a Latin cross, consists of a nave, decidedly the earliest portion of the edifice, two aisles on each side, two transepts or cross aisles, and two towers at the west end. The prevailing style it characterises in the earlier features of the cathedral is the early Romanesque or Byzantine, while in the later additions the style which prevailed towards the middle of the fifteenth century, called the third pointed, is chiefly perceptible. Basle Cathedral possesses an advantage which distinguishes it from most other continental churches, namely, that of being complete; and though chiefly built in a transitional period, its leading features harmonise with each other, and form a whole of surpassing beauty. Mr. Lechmere then proceeded to a minute description of the west front, the towers, and their details, the north porch, and other portions of the buildings, and concluded with some general remarks relative to the architectural character of the edifice. Mr. Portal, of Christ Church, noticed two Romanesque churches in Sicily, one at Moriani, near Palermo, and the other attached to the palace of the Viceroy. It appears that these were richly ornamented with mosaic work, composed of agates and other rich materials.

#### TENDERS.

TENDERS, opened in the presence of the parties, for building a house at Knightsbridge for Mr. Phillips; Mr. Beeston, architect.

Todd .....	£2,150
S. Bird .....	2,110
Burgess .....	2,103
King .....	2,090
Dickson (accepted) .....	2,027

For the new Wesleyan Chapel, opened on the 15th inst: Mr. J. Simpson, of Leeds, Architect.

Lonsdale, Nottingham .....	£1,611
Pocklington, Boston .....	1,590
Jackson, Newark .....	1,576
Pickington, Bowen .....	1,575
Baker, Sleaford (accepted) .....	1,500

#### TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"J. and P."—We shall be happy to make use of the sketch sent, and to see any others with which we may be favoured.  
 "J. J." (Stamford street).—We are obliged, but have not time.  
 "An Arkwright" (Cumberland).—The cause of smoky chimneys is so various that we cannot venture to suggest a cure for one we have not seen.  
 "P. D."—We will call.  
 "Reader."—A reader from the beginning. "M. P."—Glad to see the Editor of the *Builder* of Scotland, edited by G. F. Graham, Nov. VIII. and IX. (Novello, Dean street).  
 "Books, Prints, and Addresses."—We have not time to point out books or find addresses.  
 "Correspondents are requested to address all communications to the Editor, 2, York-street, Covent Garden."

**TO PROVINCIAL READERS.**—In reply to complaints of the irregular delivery of *The Builder* in provincial towns, we beg to state that it is invariably published by seven o'clock on Friday morning; and that the irregularity complained of rests entirely with the parties through whom it is obtained.

#### CHARGE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS IN "THE BUILDER."

For Sixty Words or less .....	5 s. d.
Every additional Thirty Words .....	1 0
One Column .....	5 0
One entire Page .....	6 0

For a series of advertisements above in a reduction will be made.

#### ADVERTISEMENTS.

**HOLBORN AND FINCHBURY SEWERS, MIDDLESEX.**  
**THE COMMISSIONERS OF SEWERS**  
 For the limits give NOTICE, that their Office, Holborn, is open daily between the hours of Ten and Four, for information can be obtained (gratis) by persons about to Purchase or Rent Houses or Property, or take Land for Building purposes, of the situation and level of the public sewers, capable of receiving sufficient Drainage, and which they recommend such Persons apply for at the above office.  
 By the Court.  
 STABLE and LUSH, Clerks.

**TO BUILDERS, OWNERS OF HOUSES AND PROPERTY, AND OTHERS.**

**THE Commissioners of Sewers for the City and Liberty of Westminster, and part of the County of Middlesex, GIVE NOTICE,** by an Act of Parliament made and passed in the session of Parliament holden in the 14th and 15th years of the reign of her present Majesty, chap. 70 (local and personal), intituled, "An Act to explain and amend the Laws of Sewers relating to the City and Liberty of Westminster, and part of the County of Middlesex," it is enacted (sec. 4), that after the passing of that Act (7 July, 1867), it shall not be lawful to build any house (and the word "house" is hereby defined to comprise every species of building within the limits of any level division or district formed, or thereafter formed, within the limits of the said Commission, unless a sewer to carry off the drainage thereof be first constructed to the satisfaction of the Commissioners of Sewers, of such material, of such size, at such level, and with such fall, as they shall direct, which sewer shall lead to and communicate with each other sewer as the Commissioners shall direct; provided that, if there shall be already a sewer sufficiently near, in the judgment of the Commissioners, to any such premises, then a drain shall be made to lead from such house into such existing sewer; and it is thereby declared that the expense of building such sewer or drain shall in all cases be borne by the owner of such house, and the Commissioners shall think that a portion of the expense of the sewer (but in no case a drain) should be borne by the level in which such sewer shall be situated: And further, it is by the said Act enacted, that if any person shall be convicted in the judgment of the Commissioners of any offence in relation to the construction of the said sewer, and any person employed by him, by him, or otherwise, as in the said Act is directed; but it is thereby provided, that no person shall be convicted of a greater term for such works than after the rate of six pence per foot according to the extent of his offence, and that any house wholly unconnected with any public sewer, and at a distance of one mile or more from any public sewer, or other house, shall not be liable to make such sewer or drain, unless such sewer or drain shall be required by the determination of a jury: And further take notice, that the said Commissioners of Sewers hereby require all persons to comply with the provisions of the said Act, and with this view persons interested are requested to attend at the Office of the Commissioners, No. 1, Great street, Holborn, between the hours of nine in the morning and four in the afternoon, where a map and plan of the sewers under the jurisdiction of the Commissioners may be seen, and the form of sewers and drains required, ascertained, and a form of the written report required may be obtained, and all further information and assistance given: And further take notice, that persons are requested forty-eight hours at least before they shall so attend at the said office to send, by post or otherwise, to the Surveyor of the Commissioners at the said office, a description of the house or premises intended to be built, with the mode in which the premises are to be joined to any sewer, or provide for the drainage of such premises.  
 By order of the Court.  
 LEWIS C. HERTSFLEY, Clerk.

**BUILDERS' BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION, Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's Inn Fields, for the Benefit of Impoverished Masters; and also to afford Relief in case of Accident to their Workmen.**

**PRESIDENT.**  
 Hugh Biers, Esq., Carlton Villas, Edgware-road.  
**VICED-PRESIDENTS.**  
 R. M. Peto, Esq., M.P., Grosvenor-street, Westminster.  
 Thom. Ormerod, Esq., F.R.S., Lambeth.  
 Stephen Bird, Esq., Kensington.  
 William Herbert, Esq., Chesham-common.  
 John Vale, Esq., Dorset-street, Edgware-road.  
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 William Cubitt, Esq., M.P., Stephen Bird, Esq., George Spencer Smith, Esq.  
**SECRETARY.**—Mr. George Bird, 28, Edgware-road.  
**SURVEYOR.**—Mr. Samuel Scott, Bart., and Co., 1, Cavendish-square.  
**SECRETARY.**—Mr. William Grubb.  
**HON. SOLICITORS.**—J.ques, Edwards, Jacques, and Layton, 8, Elv's-place, Holborn.

The Managing Committee have great pleasure in announcing that the Charity is progressing most satisfactorily, the support they are daily receiving is even much beyond their expectations; and the additional Names, with the liberal Donations and Subscriptions appended, are highly gratifying. They beg to intimate they have accepted Mr. Edward Herbert, of Grosvenor-street, as Secretary, and Charles Jackson, 1, Paradise-terrace, Holloway, Collectors to the Institution. Subscriptions will be thankfully received by the Treasurer, and the Bankers, and the Collectors.  
 The Rules and Regulations will be sent on application, and a List of the Patrons of the Institution will shortly be printed.  
 Office, Poland House, Broad-street, Golden-square, where all communications are requested to be sent—Attendance, Mondays and Thursdays, from 10 to 4.

#### SOCIETY for the ENCOURAGEMENT of ARTS and MANUFACTURES, &c.

H. R. H. PHILIP ALBERT, F.R.S., D.C.L., President.  
 The Fifty-fourth Session will commence on WEDNESDAY EVENING, the 10th instant, when the Royal Charter will be laid on the table, the Address of the Council will be presented, and communications relating to Arts and Manufactures will be read.  
 The MUSEUM, FINE ARTS, and MECHANICAL DEPARTMENT, in FINE ARTS, MANUFACTURES, MECHANICAL, CHEMICAL, and AGRICULTURE, has been issued, and may be had at the Society's House, 1, Pall-mall, for this Session, for subjects in FINE ARTS, MANUFACTURES, MECHANICAL, CHEMICAL, and AGRICULTURE, including Works in Glass, China, Earthenware, Mosaic, Marble, Carved Wood, Ornamental Iron and Brass Work, &c., &c., will be opened in the Society's House, 1, Pall-mall, on Monday, 17th March; and MANUFACTURES, ARTISTS, and DESIGNERS, are requested to send in their Works on the 14th of February.  
 The FIRST VOLUME of a New Series of TRANSACTIONS of the SOCIETY, with numerous Engravings and Coloured Plates, is nearly ready for delivery to Members.  
 The EXHIBITION of the WORKS of WM. MULLER, Esq., R.A., for the Promotion of a NATIONAL GALLERY of BRITISH ART, will take place in June.  
 All Letters and Communications to be addressed (pre-paid) to the Secretary of the Society of Arts, at the Society's House, John-street, Adelphi.

#### BRITISH MUTUAL LIFE OFFICE.

The Public are invited to examine for themselves the advantages offered by Assurance by the plan, which has been granted by the Office—Apply to CHARLES JAMES THICK, Secretary, 17, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars.

#### LONDON and PROVINCIAL JOINT-STOCK LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY.

The Directors invite the Public generally, also Building Societies and Borrowers through them or from other sources, to examine the peculiar system and striking advantages offered by this Office.  
 Every description of LIFE ASSURANCE, INVESTMENT, and LOAN, may be had on the most liberal terms.  
 For THIRTEEN-FIFTHS OF PROFITS divided—For Prospectus, &c. apply to JOHN MARSH, Secretary.  
 Office, No. 25, Nicholas-lane, Lombard-street.

#### MORTGAGE and ANNUITY OFFICE, No. 110, CHANCERY-LANE.

**PERSONS requiring LOANS by way of MORTGAGE, or otherwise, upon any available security, may at any time procure an advance to the extent of from 5*l.* to 10,000*l.*, or so much as the property will bear, by applying to Mr. B.B. To expedite the procurement, personal application at the office would in all cases be better, the party bringing with them the abstract of title, plans, &c.**